



Theta State Celebrates 78th Birthday

Dr. Alan Morgan, the guest speaker at the Birthday Luncheon on Saturday, November 3, spoke of his concerns about American students' test scores as contrasted with those of students in other countries and of his experience with the Pearson Company, which develops and distributes standard tests and other teaching and learning materials.

At the luncheon, we were regaled by the CCC Choir, which sang "Hello, Theta State," "Two, Too Wet," and "Oh! Fair New Mexico!" Hats off to these ladies who did such a fantastic job!

Golden Corral was the site for the Friday evening session of the Executive Board Meeting. The remainder of the activities, including the General Business Meeting, Break-Out Workshop Sessions, and the Birthday Luncheon, were hosted at the Rio Grande Best Western.

Break-out session offerings included information on the Strategic Action Plan, the Seminar for Purposeful Living, the Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar, a Trip to the Big Apple – an inside look at the future of DKG, and Mentoring Ideas.

If you missed Fall Meeting, you missed out!

By Martha Crane, Phi Chapter

Nominations Due January 6

Nominations for five (5) Theta State officers and five (5) committee members are due January 6 – less than two months away. The nomination form is on the Theta State web site, as well as my e-mail address and snail mail address. We need a president, 1st vice president, 2nd vice president, recording secretary, and correspondence secretary. Committees needing members are the Nominating Committee (SE and SW) and the Finance Committee (NE, C, and SW).

Please look around in your chapter and see if you have someone who could fill these positions.

Gwen Hamilton, Nominations Chair



Theta State President Pat Burnett welcomes Luncheon speaker, Dr. Alan Morgan



The CCC Choir entertains at the Birthday Luncheon.



Sheri Williams (Left), TS 1st VP, and Lonna Griffin (Right), TS Corresponding Secretary, were two of many talented leaders of break-out sessions.

Dates to Remember in 2013:

Theta State Convention – Hobbs, April 26-28
SW Regional Conference – Branson, MO –
July 17-20

Theta State President's Page:

Sisters - Caring, Sharing, Mentoring

I have always been a fan of Peanuts. Charlie Brown and his friends speak volumes when it comes to the truths of life. Many years ago, one of the strips depicted Charlie Brown in a schoolroom sitting at an art table covered with paper and some crayons. Lucy is analyzing his picture that shows a little boy with no arms and hands. She has decided that this shows deep seated issues in his personality. Charlie Brown's response is simple. "No, I just don't know how to draw arms and hands!" I use this illustration to point out a common misconception our DKG members have when it comes to offering the great opportunity of membership to other key women educators. We sometimes make judgments about another person's supposed reaction, interest, or qualifications. We become Lucy and make quick and sometimes incorrect interpretations that deny the opportunity of membership to great professionals. I encourage you to lose your inner Lucy and instead offer the gift of DKG to a fellow educator during this year. Be intentional in your search for a woman with whom you may share the DKG attitude of caring and mentoring.

Each chapter should be working diligently on its **SAP plan** so that there is focus and direction for membership, projects, meeting the 7 purposes, etc. Your state officers are available to help with this process, as needed. There are some aids on the International website, as well. According to the chapter presidents' reports, over 2/3 of the chapters have or are preparing strategic action plans this biennium. Our state organization is also preparing a strategic action plan, as well as updating both bylaws and standing rules. Carmen Tapia and her committee have taken the task of bringing the bylaws and rules into compliance with International and are carrying out the job with thoroughness and care.

I am looking forward to seeing the photographic story of your **"Inching to Mentor" projects**. You will have the the opportunity to display the information at the convention in Hobbs this spring. There have been some very creative ways developed around the state to share the materials collected with early career educators. Way to go!

Sisters – Caring, Sharing, and Mentoring continues to be the lifeblood of this biennium. The success of our local chapters, our state organization, and Delta Kappa Gamma Society International depends on the individual vision each of us has for our chosen profession, whether we are actively teaching or have stepped into the next phase of our life. Every activity we sponsor should have the focus of mentoring.

We have designed and are in the preliminary steps of implementing a focused expansion campaign led by our

Immediate Past President Yvette Moore. This involves the obvious contacting of school personnel, but also the offering of professional leadership training to open avenues of communication with future leaders and potential members. We are targeting Carlsbad and Las Vegas key women educators.

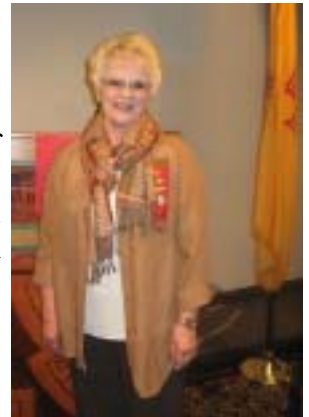
We recently held a Leadership Seminar for chapter leaders to which all but two chapters sent representatives. Our Leadership Chair, Nola Miller, encouraged chapters to include future leaders in the group and several did bring potential leaders as well as current ones. During the seminar, we explored our profile as a group, gave chapters time to work on SAP planning and chapter websites, and spent time on training attendees in Go to Meeting procedures. A great deal of emphasis was put on creating opportunities within local chapters for members to mentor early career professionals either short or long term during the next year.

This summer nineteen Theta State sisters went to the International meeting in New York City. This opportunity to share in such an intense experience was a prime moment in my life. Seeing a new country (Japan) added to our numbers, hearing leadership tips from top people in the field, garnering ideas for involving early career professionals in our organization were just a few of the highlights for me. There is no easy way to express the atmosphere of DKG women gathered from all over the world yet sharing the same philosophy and concern for each other. We are a mighty group of women who can successfully design the future of Theta State. This must involve all of us and it must address our role in mentoring early career educators in our various school districts. As long as we all continue with our emphasis on mentoring and caring, Theta State will grow and serve the women educators of New Mexico as our rich history demonstrates we have done since our inception.

As we celebrate our state's 100th anniversary, let us recognize the strength of New Mexico's history as well as that of Theta State. Our mutual paths have been rich and varied and will serve us well as we march toward the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve alongside each of you.

Pat Burnett, Theta State President





Fifty \$1000 Awards to be Part of 50th Anniversary Celebration

Do you know active members (for at least 3 years) in our state of New Mexico who could use \$1000 for a classroom or community project? Of course you do!

DKG Educational Foundation is offering fifty \$1000 awards to celebrate their 50th anniversary. Award applications will be available on the Foundation website (www.dkgef.org) on May 1, 2013. The deadline for application will be November 15, 2013.

The award checks will be presented at the 2014 International Convention in Indianapolis. Award recipients not attending the convention will receive their checks after August 1, 2014.

Submitted by Clara Enriquez, Scholarship Chair

Lucile Cornet Awards Available

The DKG Educational Foundation is giving awards to individuals who do not have to be members of the society but who are employed educators who meet the criteria to assist in their professional development through providers such as college, universities, and professional organizations other than Delta Kappa Gamma.

Awards will fund participation in conferences, seminars, lecture series, national certification, online courses, workshops and other non-degree programs. Awards may fund travel, lodging, meals, pay for substitutes, registration fees, etc. Awards may **not** be used to reimburse activities already completed, to pursue a degree program, or to fund an educational project. This award offer could also be used to entice new membership. Award applications are available on the Foundation website: www.dkgef.org. The deadlines for application are February 1, May 1, and September 1 of each year.

Submitted by Clara Enriquez, Scholarship Chair

Apply! Apply!

Come on, Theta State members, with 30 International scholarships available, there is at least one sister who could well be eligible to win one of these scholarships. If you have been an active DKG member for at least 3 years and have been accepted and enrolled in a graduate program of a nationally accredited institution of higher education, you may apply. If granted an award, members pursuing doctoral degrees receive \$10,000; those working on their masters degrees receive \$6000.

Applications for International scholarships, available on the DKG website, are due February 1, 2013, for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Submitted by Clara Enriquez, Scholarships Chair

Prepare Scrapbook Pages



Once again, chapters are asked to prepare two 12-inch by 12-inch scrapbook pages highlighting chapter programs and projects undertaken this biennium. The two pages should not be back to back. Many of you received your 12" x 12" page protectors at the November 3rd Theta State Fall Event. Chapters can either mail the two scrapbook pages to Jeannette Vigil, TS Research Chairman (check Theta State Officers list or e-mail her at leahvigil14@gmail.com for her address) or bring them to State Convention in Hobbs on April 26, 2013.

Submitted by Jeannette Vigil, Scrapbook Chair

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White Rose of Remembrance

Celia G. Romero

A white rose is extended in memory of Celia G. Romero, who passed away September 19, 2012, at the age of 94. Celia began teaching at the age of 18. She taught at various schools, including a one-room school in Fence Lake, NM, and Paul Henry Elementary School in Los Lunas School District. Celia served as a master teacher and teaching principal in Los Lunas. She taught in elementary schools for 25 years, and after she retired, did volunteer work helping children improve their reading skills.



She was a member of Alpha Beta Chapter until she moved to Albuquerque, then joined Alpha Delta. She attended Alpha Delta meetings until 2010. Her children stated that she was a wonderful mother who instilled into them the values of honesty, integrity, industry and educational achievement. She will be missed as a special member of Alpha Delta Chapter of Albuquerque.

Submitted by Melissa Blaine, Alpha Delta Editor

CCC Hosts Early Career Educators

Central Coordinating Council chapters joined forces to host early career educators with a Get Together and Materials Fair on September 25 in the spacious and modern Family and Consumer Science classroom of Melissa Blaine, Alpha Delta member. The invited guests happily chose many items from ten large tables, brimming with a huge variety of educational materials donated by DKG members.

CCC officers, representative members of the area chapters, and Theta State President Pat Burnett extended warm greetings to the guests and informed them of additional help individual members were willing to offer. A delicious potluck supper, provided by CCC chapters, created a relaxed setting for everyone to become better acquainted and for guests to receive information about DKG.

CCC chapters – Alpha Beta, Alpha Delta, Alpha Iota, Gamma, and Sigma – were pleased this cooperative effort resulted in a successful event. In addition, nothing went to waste, thanks to CCC's energetic President Carmen Pennington. The very next day, she delivered all the remaining materials to three schools, which were surprised and delighted to receive them.

Submitted by Betty Begeal

Central Coordinating Council News

CCC Mentoring Project

CCC Chapters Alpha Beta, Alpha Delta, Alpha Iota, Gamma and Sigma held their New Teacher Get-Together Dinner on September 25, 2012, at Grants Middle School in Albuquerque. Theta State President Pat Burnett attended the event, welcomed the new teachers into the teaching profession, and spoke about DKG.

Each chapter brought resources, materials to use in classrooms and school supplies that the new teachers who attended were able to take for their classroom. Materials left over were taken to four other schools in Albuquerque. The new teachers were given a handout with the CCC members' names, disciplines taught, phone number, and email so that the teachers could contact a member for suggestions, help, or even to set up a time to observe their teaching to get suggestions in classroom management. CCC is looking forward to mentoring the new teachers and keeping in touch with them.

CCC Hosts Fall Event

CCC hosted the Theta State Fall Meeting and Birthday Luncheon on November 3, 2012, at the Best Western Inn on the Rio Grande. The theme was New Mexico's Centennial. The CCC Choir entertained during the luncheon, and Dr. Alan Morgan was the guest speaker for the event. We wish to thank all who attended.

By Carmen J. Pennington, CCC Coordinator

Alpha Beta, Los Lunas/Belen

“Education is a great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that the son of a mine worker can become the head of the mine, that a child of farm workers can become the President...”
Nelson Mandela

Alpha Beta's October meeting was held at Infinity High School. The program about the Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area was a slide show presented by Linda Hines and Ted Hodaba.

Our chapter was well represented at the November DKG celebration of its 78th Birthday. Roberta Sanchez designed the program, about which we received numerous compliments. Bev Stern and Nan Windle contributed their beautiful voices to the choir. Luisita Delgado, our Millie Sanchez (one of our new initiates), and Laura Burr attended as well. Our other new initiate is Cheri Embres.

By Roberta Sanchez, Nan Windle, and Laura Burr

Frances Shutt Celebrates 100th Birthday

Omega Chapter, along with family and friends of Frances Shutt, gathered at La Posta Restaurant in Las Cruces to celebrate her 100th birthday (YES, 100) on Monday, November 12. The State of New Mexico arrived just a few months before our beloved Frances.



Frances Shutt poses with her birthday cake.

Is she a teacher at the top of the class?
That's a YES - 100%

Is she the gal with the red, smiling lips?
That's a YES - 100%

Is she the WW II veteran, as tough as they come?
That's a YES - 100%

Is she a caring friend on which to depend?
That's a YES - 100%

Is she the past officer of too many societies to list?
That's a YES - 100%

Is she the distinguished/amazing honoree of the hour?
That's a YES - 100%

Is she Frances Shutt?
Well - YES - 100! 100! 100%

Submitted by Sharron Stepro, Omega Chapter

The party was a blast! We had a little memory book for her with a letter from Pat Burnett and one from International President Beverly Helms. I read these, then asked her the secrets to living to be 100.

Yvette - What is your secret for longevity, Frances?
Frances - Don't go to the doctor.

Yvette - How much medication do you take in a day? (Of course, I knew the answers.)
Frances - Three pills: 3 aspirins every day and a vitamin that my doctor prescribed 24 years ago.

Yvette - What do you eat for breakfast?
Frances - A bran muffin, 1/2 a banana, a cup of green tea.

November 12 was declared Frances Shutt Day in Las Cruces by proclamation of the mayor. Frances has the gift of encouragement. She sees in others what they do not see in themselves and encourages them to serve.

Sent by Yvette Moore, Omega Chapter

Psi Chapter, Grants



Psi Chapter is proud to present Nancy Taranto. Nancy has currently been working on her administrative degree through Western University in Gallup. She just recently took and passed her administrative exam. Wow! Are we excited to share her news with all of Theta State! She will make a great administrator. Right now she is finishing her internship under Liz Elkins (also of Psi Chapter), principal at Cubero Elementary, as she teaches fourth grade. Talk about a load of work! Who would not want this friendly face as their principal and co-worker!

Psi Chapter has a brand new Professional Development Award approved on October 12, 2012. Chairman Ina Jean Barnes, Ginny Hill, and Margaret Hoskins are glad to announce the awarding of \$250 to Kelly K. Thomas Coyle for the year 2012-2013. Kelly is a teacher of the gifted. She will use the scholarship to attend the National Association for Gifted Children Convention November 13-18, 2012, in Colorado. Psi Chapter is pleased to give this opportunity to Kelly for advancing her professional and personal development in current legislation trends, teaching strategies and public policy. Kelly will support her students of high potential to achieve eminence in their field of endeavor and personal lives.

Psi Chapter has invited these four educators into their ranks. Pictured (L to R) are Brooke Ratliff, Jolene Jaramillo, Dorothy Sue Reed, and Debi Miller.



Submitted by Lynette Schmitt

Alpha Lambda, Hobbs

Alpha Lambda Chapter held a reception for teachers new to teaching and new to the Hobbs Schools. This catered, sponsored event was held at the Lea County Center for the Arts. The program included a “Tour of Art Quilts,” given by the quilts’ artist.

Earlier, our chapter attended the new teacher orientation, inviting all present to choose donated books and school supplies displayed on the “free” table, and all new women teachers were invited to sign up for mentoring by DKG members. Because of the success of these events, both will be repeated for the 2013-2014 year.

Four Alpha Lambda members have received singular honors recently. Wilma Brooks, alternate school instructor, was recognized as the Educator of the Year by the Buffalo Soldiers Society of New Mexico. Stephanie Holland and Beverly Ellis were honored by the Llano Estacado Art Association’s “100 Years of Enchantment” show. Stephanie was awarded the “Best of Show” for her clay sculpture “Nuestra Madre,” and Beverly received a first place ribbon for her watercolor “Cap Rock.” Kay Hannum, president of Alpha Lambda, was inducted into the NEA-NM State Hall of Fame for her contributions both to education and to NEA-NM.

Submitted by Kay Hannum



“Cap Rock”
by Beverly Ellis



Stephanie Holland and
“Nuestra Madre”

Alpha Iota, Albuquerque

Pat Burnett, Theta State President, presided at the installation of Alpha Iota’s officers for 2012-13. The officers are: Betty Begeal, President; Ann Calderwood, First Vice President; Donna Moore, Second Vice President; Frances Dodd, Recording Secretary; and Jan Oglesby, Corresponding Secretary. Diane Bonnell will continue as Treasurer, and outgoing president Claire Miller will serve as Parliamentarian.

Our October program concerned the 100 Photo Contest promoted by the NM Tourism Department. It challenged the participants to locate places in New Mexico from pictures taken 100 years ago and photograph them as they are today. Pat Heydt (left) and her daughter, Melanie Trujillo



(right), were the first to finish the contest. After traveling over 5,000 miles and having some unbelievable adventures, Pat and Melanie presented us the before and after pictures of all 100 of these historic and remote places. This would be an excellent presentation for classes studying New Mexico history and groups observing the Centennial.

Several of our members participated in the Get Together for Early Career Educators sponsored by the Central Coordinating Council and presided over by Carmen Pennington, CCC president. Alpha Iota members Donna Moore and Kandi Dickinson greeted the guests who were new teachers; and the veteran teachers attending donated materials for the use of the guests. All materials left over were donated to four local schools.

Two of our Alpha Iota members have recently received honors. Mary Beavis received the Distinguished Service to NMAER award for being the Liaison between AARP and NMAER for six years. She served under two AARP state presidents and four NMAER state presidents who jointly approve and appoint the Liaison. Diane Bonnell was honored by UNM which established a \$25,000 endowment in Diane’s name for her years of service to the university in multiple roles: summer school music professor, music education specialist, and as Director of the UNM Music Prep School for 19 years. The endowment is to be used toward tuition for those students needing help to attend the UNM Music Prep School. Congratulations, Mary and Diane.

Submitted by Alyce Cummins

Upsilon Updates, Gallup

Upsilon Chapter's literacy project, "Leah's Library Corner," located at the New Mexico Cancer Center, is doing extremely well. With the help of Leah's grandparents, John and Barbara Lawless, Americans for Native Americans Organization out of Philadelphia, and Upsilon Chapter, Leah's Library Corner has collected over 700 books, puzzles, and magazines. The Lawless family and Upsilon Chapter have also donated one hundred dollars to the Cancer Foundation Fund to help the victims of cancer pay for gas, utilities or food.



Members of Upsilon held their October meeting at the cancer center. Topic of the program was Women's Health Issues. A brochure was given out to all members and to invited guests. The brochure is available on the Theta State website. It contains valuable information for women regarding breast cancer, heart attacks, and strokes. Beverly Crowe was a main speaker regarding breast cancer. Sharon Palacios spoke on strokes and her experience. Clara Enriquez spoke on being a cancer survivor and on the topic of heart attacks. Early detection and awareness of signs were the key focus of the talks. A tour of the center followed the meeting. Of course, Leah's Library Corner was included in the tour as well as the areas that contained state-of-the-art equipment for radiation and chemotherapy. The center has been in operation in Gallup since 2007.



Mildred Holmes

In Honor of our Dear Sister
Upsilon Chapter has named their Scholarship
The Mildred Holmes Scholarship (Grant-in-Aid)
In the year of 2012

Upsilon Chapter proudly announced that it has named its scholarship/grant-in-aid the Mildred Holmes Scholarship to honor a very loved member of the chapter who passed away in the spring. If you wish to contribute to this project, you may contact Clara Enriquez, President of Upsilon Chapter,

on the web DoisaEnriquez@aol.com or at 503 West Wilson Avenue, Gallup, NM 87301. Her phone number is 505-863-6696. Checks may be made out to Delta Kappa Gamma. Clara wishes to thank all who contributed at the Fall Meeting. A total of \$160 was collected. "I am sure Mildred would be proud to know that she is being honored by helping those who want to enter the field of teaching," stated Clara Enriquez.

Submitted by Clara Enriquez

Phi Chapter, Portales

Emphasis on membership retention has been job one in Phi Chapter this year. Following lunch and a planning session in the summer, those attending wrote postcards to absent and past members inviting them to the first fall meeting. Janine Elder, secretary, emails the minutes to each member after meetings. Martha Crane also includes those minutes in the Phi Focus newsletter before the next meeting. The president sends postcards and electronic reminders of the meetings as well.

Theta State President Pat Burnett along with Kay Allison and Gwen Hamilton met with Phi Chapter in November at the El Rancho restaurant in Portales for a fun and informative evening. Pat shared



Phi President Billie Dixon welcomes Theta State President Pat Burnett

the butterfly challenge for teachers to help their students emerge from their cocoons and for Delta Kappa Gamma members to help teachers emerge into their butterfly potential. Pat suggested that Phi Chapter appoint a "Web Watcher" to monitor the DKG international and state sites and inform membership about important and helpful events and services.



Following the theme "Phi Chapter is not complete without you," each member and guest found her "piece of the puzzle" and placed it on the puzzle board to form the picture as

they arrived. The goal is to have all members present and complete the picture.

Carolyn Thompson and Billie Dixon told brief inspirational "penny stories" from their family to explain the penny name badges. The person with the oldest penny received the door prize, a "renubee" bowl. Phi Chapter presented Pat Burnett with a "renubee" platter.

Submitted by Billie Dixon

Alpha Delta, Albuquerque

Alpha Delta's October program featured Keira Philipp-Schnurer of UNM Latin American and Iberian Institute. The Community Education Programs offer many types of workshops and resources for teachers throughout New Mexico. Keira gave a great presentation to our chapter and put our teachers on a list to be informed of the many programs that will be presented throughout the school year. We wanted to share this with Theta State sisters. You may contact Keira Philipp-Schnurer at her e-mail kphilipp@unm.edu or website <http://lail.unm.edu>, or call her at (505)277-7047 to find out more about this resource.

By Carmen J. Pennington, Alpha Delta President

Beta, Santa Fe

Beta member Helenn Rumpel, renowned artist with the needle, writes:

"Latest news. I have a piece in a juried show at the Millicent Rogers Museum... *Omega Alpha*, in the end is the beginning.

"I have just finished an exhibit and major presentation at Buffalo Thunder for the National 2012 Seminar of the Embroiderers' Guild of America. Blessings!"

Submitted by Helenn Rumpel, Beta Chapter

The Red Desk

Have you ever had a serendipity experience at the end of a long day? Something that blesses you when you least expected it? I rediscovered a poetry



book entitled *The Red Desk* when I started looking for an illustration or poem to accompany the mentoring of new teachers that so many of our articles have addressed.

I don't remember which DKG convention I was attending, but it featured a teacher/poet named Mary Kim Schreck who thrilled us with her poems and shared teaching experiences. So much so that I was one of a huge crowd lined up after her speech to buy a copy of one of her poetry books. I ended up buying three!

In *The Red Desk* (pictured above), I found a poem entitled "Passing the Baton," which is what we are doing when we mentor a new teacher. Mary Kim graciously gave me permission to use it. It's in the next column.

Faye Dunn, TSN Editor

Passing the Baton

by Mary Kim Schreck

As a little girl
Jane came to school with me –
helped me stamp books, arrange folders,
prepare for the new school year.

Later
she came to watch the plays
attend the games,
help me with fundraisers.

Home on college break
she'd sit in on classes,
tell me about her portfolio,
her experiences as a student teacher.

Now all has changed.

Like the runner's baton
the chalk has been passed
so smoothly, so quickly,
that we hardly had time
to notice.

Now I go to her plays,
sit in on her classes,
help her prepare for the school year.

She is the ACTIVE TENSE of education
I am not.
Hers is the ACTIVE VOICE of teaching
while mine has become
the "try to avoid in your writing"
PASSIVE VOICE –

The heady center
of constant motion
and communication
where a teacher abides
is her realm now.

I am but an observer
to the rich, beautiful bedlam
of holding a classroom
together
in cupped hands.

I know this is the way of things,
I'm proud of my daughter,
yet I envy her,
oh, how I envy her.